

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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 Evening Bee (including Sunday), per week, 35c

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

## REMITTANCES.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

## STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:  
 I, George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, say that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of August, 1903, was as follows:

1. 26,910	17. 29,050
2. 27,220	18. 29,040
3. 29,780	19. 29,220
4. 29,980	20. 29,360
5. 29,700	21. 29,470
6. 29,720	22. 29,380
7. 29,920	23. 29,400
8. 29,180	24. 29,280
9. 29,610	25. 29,330
10. 29,500	26. 29,280
11. 29,450	27. 29,380
12. 29,580	28. 29,220
13. 29,080	29. 29,400
14. 29,430	30. 29,470
15. 29,490	31. 29,470
16. 29,430	
Total.....	904,532

Less unsold and returned copies..... 8,502

Net total sales..... 896,030

Net average sale..... 28,903

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK,  
 Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company.  
 Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 24th day of August, A. D. 1903.  
 M. B. HUNGATE,  
 Notary Public.

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M. B. HUNGATE,

Notary Public.

(Seal.)

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## END OF IRON AND STEEL BOOM.

Has the boom in the iron and steel trade of the United States, which began some four years ago, come to an end? It seems that the question must be answered in the affirmative, judging from the statements of those who are most intimately acquainted with the iron and steel business. Although there is still a very large demand for the products of iron and steel, it is yet a fact that the demand is not at present so great as it was a couple of years ago and there is a reasonable belief that it will not soon again reach that point.

There has been a remarkable growth in this industry in the past seven or eight years. The production of pig iron in the United States has been advancing by leaps and bounds. It nearly doubled in the five-year period 1897-1901. The New York Journal of Commerce remarks that thus this country, which five years earlier produced an amount of pig iron only slightly in excess of the production of the United Kingdom, produced at the end of the century an amount little short of that of the United Kingdom and Germany taken together. Last year this country produced approximately 40 per cent of all the pig iron in the world, its total output exceeding by nearly a million tons the united production of Great Britain and Germany. The increase in the production of steel has gone on with almost equal rapidity. While there is no evidence of any sudden cessation of the demand for steel products in the home market, it is pointed out that a number of influences have combined to make the market very much more restricted than it has been during the last two years. Thus it is stated that the railway companies have, from considerations of prudence, interrupted their liberal buying of steel rails, of steel cars and steel bridge material, while the attitude of organized labor in the building trades has had a distinctly depressing effect on the demand for steel for construction purposes.

The Journal of Commerce thinks it only natural, under such circumstances, that the great steel concerns should contemplate an aggressive campaign into foreign markets, as they are said to do, but that paper suggests that there has been a radical change of conditions abroad since, in England and Germany, the imports of American iron and steel reached the proportions of an "invasion." The excess of exports over imports of iron and steel during the last fiscal year was less than half what it was in 1900, or lower than that of any year since 1897. The European production now exceeds the demand in the foreign markets, so that there seems to be little chance for our manufacturers increasing their sales in those markets. As our New York contemporary remarks, "Everything points to the probability that a test will shortly be applied to the great steel producing establishments of the United States of their ability to do a profitable business under normal conditions and to hold their own in the markets of the world in the face of the sharpest kind of European competition."

## CERTAIN OF AN ISTHMIAN CANAL.

Senator Fairbanks said a few days ago that while regretting the defeat of the Panama canal treaty, he felt certain that the president will find a way to secure what the people so greatly desire—a water route across the isthmus. Mr. Fairbanks, who has been an earnest advocate of the Panama route, recently conferred with Mr. Roosevelt and very likely is familiar with the president's intentions regarding the canal, so that his expression of confidence doubtless was not without a substantial basis. So far as appears it is the purpose of our government not to further urge the canal question upon Colombia, but to let that country make the next move in the matter. The latest report from Bogota states that there is indifference regarding the failure of the canal treaty and that the committee of the Colombian senate is still at work upon a new treaty, but it is not known when its report will be presented. If it is proposed to submit to the United States another treaty containing the terms and conditions recently reported as representing the demands of Colombia, the framing of such a treaty may as well be abandoned, for there is no possibility of its being accepted by the United States. Our government will not allow itself to be held up by the mercenary politicians of Colombia and they ought to understand this. Meanwhile there appears to be little interest anywhere in the Nicaragua route and as stated some time ago by the minister of Nicaragua to the United States that country will not seek to open negotiations. It is not likely that there will be any further action before the meeting of congress.

## A DANGER SPOT.

The Philadelphia Ledger says that the anthracite coal region is one of the danger spots of America and that the last strike proved it. That paper, generally most careful and conservative in its views and statements, says there is a mass of ignorance and lawlessness there, that there are too many murders, mysterious assaults, and more dangerous and significant, too many crimes for which there are no convictions. "The perpetrators of crimes are too seldom found; when found, the juries show a disinclination to convict. If there is no terrorism, as some persons report, there is an unwholesome disposition to let crime alone and to let the criminals escape, to do the perfunctory and to avoid inviting the hostility of the lawless element."

It is not to be doubted that there is substantial ground for this statement and it ought to command the most serious attention of the people and the authorities of Pennsylvania. In considering the underlying causes of this state of affairs, the Ledger points out as one

of them the fact that the Slav has invaded the anthracite coal field and is displacing the English-speaking miner. "The newcomer is an alien indeed. He comes from an autocratic or despotic European nation, where he has been a bond worker, either ignorant of all free institutions or filled with hate for all authority, and he has no grip on the ideas of free government. The love and the respect which his forefathers in the region felt, or were capable of feeling, for an adopted country, and which were sufficient in a measure to restrain them from anarchy, are represented in the mind of the Slav by fear alone." Of course this element is in the anthracite coal region because the operators wanted this class of labor, believing it could be more readily controlled and subjected to oppressive measures and harsh treatment than could the English-speaking miners. The responsibility, therefore, for making that region one of the dangerous spots of America is largely with the men who own and operate the mines and consequently it is they who should be held accountable in large part for the lawlessness that exists there. There are indications of more trouble in the anthracite region at no very remote time and it does not appear that the operators are particularly disposed to avert it.

## THE LINE OF DEMARKATION.

The rank and file of the republicans of Douglas county earnestly desire the obliteration of factional difficulties that have for many years divided the party in this county and enabled the democratic minority to occupy nearly all the important political positions within the gift of the people. In striving for conciliation and harmony the party must, however, not sacrifice the public interest or jeopardize the success of its nominees in the impending campaign by ignoring the two essential prerequisites—competency and honesty—as passports to public favor and public office.

Harmony does not necessarily mean that every member of the party stands pledged to the support of men disqualified for the positions of honor and trust by indefensible records or disqualified by the duties that would devolve upon them by lack of capacity. Here is the line of demarcation. To solidify and unify the party in support of an unsolicited ticket the candidates on the ticket must be clean, honest and capable. Hackneyed pledges of supporting yellow dogs that are tagged with a convention label will not insure their election. Nominations of unfit candidates tend to drag down the whole ticket and cause the defeat of candidates who otherwise would be sure of election. Factionalism in this county has been responsible for the defeat by republican voters of republican candidates with good records and excellent reputations just because they were identified with either one or the other faction.

For such a course there can be no justification. While it is the duty of every citizen, regardless of party, to oppose men notoriously corrupt and unfit for public office, there is no excuse or palliation for the men who profess a party creed to single out and knife honest and capable candidates of their own party because they train with the opposite faction.

Tax reformers regard publicity as the most effective factor in preventing favoritism and tax evasion. The publication of real estate assessment lists prior to final action by municipal and county equalization boards is regarded as imperative as a check to dishonest or inequitable assessment. While the publication of the assessment rolls would involve a very large outlay the advantages to be gained by publicity would far outweigh the expenses incurred. A New York law enacted last winter at the instance of the New York Tax Reform association provides for the separate assessment of land and improvements and the published lists include the names of the owner or occupant of each lot or parcel of land, the dimensions and character of the buildings erected upon it, the assessed value of the land and the value as a whole. When the assessors know that their work is to be reviewed by all the taxpayers and property owners they will be very cautious in showing partiality. Even if they are disposed to discriminate, any rank discrimination would be detected and rectified by the boards of equalization.

When the Denver papers cannot improvise a blood-and-thunder red letter sensation they try to startle all Colorado by the announcement of the discovery of another great bonanza. Such an exclusive piece of news appeared in an afternoon Denver paper of Thursday, when we are told that the richest strike of gold was made the day before in the Red mountain district. "Quartz in this mine is three feet thick and for a distance of seven feet has the appearance of being incased in a solid cover of free gold that will run from \$75,000 to \$100,000 per ton."

The so-called Farmers' National congress, made up principally of political farmers who do their plowing and threshing with their jaws, is now in session at Niagara Falls. After grinding out the usual crop of high-sounding resolutions concerning national and international problems they will pass from labor to refreshment.

The prospect of harmony in the ranks of Douglas county republicans appears to alarm the democratic nonpartisan organ very much. With republicans united and harmonious there would be no prospect of electing a single candidate on the democratic ticket this fall.

The trouble on Wall street has not been caused by the drain of currency from the vaults of New York banks to move the crops, but from the inflation of industrial securities deposited as collateral.

One example will suffice. The Universal Tobacco company, capitalized at \$10,000,000, pans out assets to the amount of only \$135,000, or less than 2 per cent of the total capitalization. If the New York bankers would repress such shenanigans they would not be clamoring for asset currency.

## Satisfactory Assurance.

Washington Star.  
 The vast armies of children now assembling in the public schools constitute a pretty satisfactory assurance that the country is safe.